

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	1. Ship Construction 2. Difficulties Over Iron Gate Canal	DATE DISTR.	18 February 1953
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED] 25X1C	NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED] 25X1A	REFERENCE NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1X

1. In late October 1952 two fishing boats were on the stocks in a stage of near completion in the Danube River shipyard above Turnu Severin. They are about 20 meters long, three meters wide, with metal hulls, and of a type easily convertible to mine sweepers. At the wharf below Turnu Severin eleven boats of the same type were observed in the water, apparently being equipped with engines.
2. In the same shipyard a large barge of the DNIEPER type was also on the stocks under construction. This barge is approximately 70 meters long and 12 meters wide; it will carry a maximum load estimated at 1,000 tons.
3. The locomotive which normally tows shipping through the portion of the Iron Gate Canal which runs through Yugoslav territory for 1,800 meters has been immobilized by a decree of the Yugoslav Government. Employees of the Yugoslav Shipping Company (CIT) state that the Yugoslavs have refused to run the locomotive until other nations operating ships on the Danube River have paid their share of the expenses. Allegedly, the bills for operating the towing system have been in default since 1947. When the locomotive is not working, passage through the canal is greatly delayed, since barges must be towed through the canal one at a time by powered vessels which are much slower.
4. Pilots of CIT, who take shipping through the difficult channel above the Iron Gate are still available for hiring by all shipping companies.

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